

**CHILD AND FAMILY SERVICES ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MINUTES
July 16, 2009**

PRESENT: Diane Ripple, Faith Holley-Beal, Raquel Mehring, Polina Makievsky, Barb Holtz, Michelle DuBord, Don Harris, Joe Vitale, Maura McMahon

STAFF PRESENT: Jesús Mireles, Antwayne Robertson, Peter Slesar

Diane Ripple called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Approval of minutes is tabled until September 16 meeting.

BOARD LIAISON REPORT

Joe gave a board liaison report. On July 22nd and 23rd, the Department of Health and Human Services will discuss the budget with the Board. Jesús is scheduled for 8:30 a.m. followed by Antwayne at 9:30 a.m. and then Peter at 11:30 a.m. In November, the Dept. submits its budget to the Board and the Board sends theirs to the County Executive.

ISSUE SEGMENT: LA CASA DE ESPERANZA

Polina Makievsky shared the history of La Casa de Esperanza and then provided an overview of all the programs and services offered at La Casa. La Casa was founded in 1966 by a grassroots movement stemming from a church group. English as a Second Language was the focus and the program was done through home visits. Over time La Casa has added an array of programs. Work Force Development programs include placing job ready individuals with area companies, Financial Stability and Ways to Work and VITA Tax site. Financial Stability is a United Way initiative that serves about 50 families. La Casa also has a Weatherization Program. Its Outpatient Clinic provides AODA, HIV/AIDS counseling and counseling for perpetrators of domestic violence. La Casa I and II are subsidized senior housing complexes and most recently La Casa has opened a health center.

SPECIAL NEEDS SUBCOMMITTEE REPORT

There will be a subcommittee meeting next week (week of July 20th). There is stimulus money available for Birth to 3 Program to allow them to identify higher need children through Medicaid waiver to provide enhanced services to them.

OTHER ANNOUNCEMENTS

PPAC is offering Love and Logic 3 times per year. There are 20 openings per session and there is a fee for this class but it might be waived.

Barb Holtz is doing a number of trainings for mandatory reporters this fall using the Children's Hospital curriculum. Watch for announcements with specific dates, times and locations.

Jessie mentioned that he and Antwayne participated in a webinar discussing how the counties are surviving in tough economic times. 2010 is going to be tough but 2011 will probably be even tougher. The idea from the webinar is to explore consortiums as a way to leverage existing revenue. Michelle DuBord mentioned that United Way is looking at this too.

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be held on September 17, 2009 at 8:30 a.m. in the Board Room of the Human Services Center.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 10:00 a.m.

Approved on _____
(Date)